

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the amendments and the remarks to follow. Claims 1-36 and 40-49 were previously canceled without prejudice and claims 37-39 and 55-61 are presently canceled without prejudice. Claims 50-54 and 62-65 are pending in this application and stand allowed. Entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application are requested in view of the amendments and the remarks to follow.

**Allowable Subject Matter:**

Claims 50-54 and 62-65 are stated (Office Action, page 3, item 4, also Summary) to be allowed. All other claims having been canceled simply to expedite issuance of the subject application, the application is presently in condition for allowance.

**35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**


Claims 37-39 and 55-61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,587,129 B1 to Lavendel et al. (hereinafter "Lavendel") in view of newly-cited Humpleman et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,288,716 B1 (hereinafter "Humpleman"). Applicant respectfully disagrees, however, in view of cancellation of claims 37-39 and 55-61, the rejection is moot.

**Conclusion**

Claims 50-54 and 62-65 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: Nov. 12, 2004

By:   
Frederick M. Fliegel  
Reg. No. 36,138  
(509) 324-9256 x239